

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

This is a continuation application filed under 37 C.F.R. §1.53(b). This application is a continuation application of co-pending U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/154,658 filed May 24, 2002. U.S. Serial No. 10/154,658, filed May 24, 2002, is a continuation of U.S. Serial No. 08/515,813, filed August 16, 1995, now abandoned, which is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Serial no. 08/485,310, filed June 7, 1995, now U.S. Patent No. 5,734,558, U.S. Serial No. 08/417,914, filed April 6, 1995, now U.S. Patent No. 5,717,533, and U.S. Serial No. 08/372,780, filed January 13, 1995, now U.S. Patent No. 5,546,281. U.S. Serial No. 08/485,310, filed June 7, 1995, now U.S. Patent No. 5,734,558, is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Serial No. 08/417,914, filed April 6, 1995, now U.S. Patent No. 5,717,533, and U.S. Serial No. 08/372,780, filed January 13, 1995, now U.S. Patent No. 5,546,281. U.S. Serial No. 08/417,914, filed April 6, 1995, now U.S. Patent No. 5,717,533, is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Serial No. 08/372,780, filed January 13, 1995, now U.S. Patent No. 5,546,281. This application claims priority to U.S. Serial No.s: 10/154,658; 08/515,813; 08/485,310; 08/417,914; and 08/372,780. The aforementioned parent applications are all hereby incorporated herein by reference.

Claims 1-29 have been canceled. New Claims 30-33 have been added. Claims 30-33 are active in the application.

Clarifying amendments have been made to the specification.

Filed herewith is a LETTER TRANSMITTING COPY OF OATH OR DECLARATION and a copy of the oath or declaration as filed in the parent application.

Applicant notes that the parent patent application having serial number 10/154,658 is assigned to Stratos Lightwave, Inc.

Appl. No.
Amdt. dated December 12, 2003

Preliminary Amendment, continued

A three month extension of time was mailed on December 9, 2003, in the parent application having serial number 10/154,658 so as to make the parent case co-pending with the application filed herewith to December 13, 2003. The Commissioner is authorized to charge our deposit account number 50-1413 in the amount of \$950 so as to extend the period of response by three months in parent application having serial number 10/154,658.

The amendments are self-evident from the original disclosure. Therefore, it is believed that no new matter has been introduced.

Respectfully submitted,

Express Mail No.: *EL 59358854505*

Date of Deposit: *December 12, 2003*

I hereby certify that this paper and/or fee is being deposited
with the United States Postal Service via "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee"
service, under 37 CFR §1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to:

Mail Stop Patent Application

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Karl D. Kovach

By

Karl D. Kovach

Karl D. Kovach

Reg. No.: 40,278

Stratos International, Inc.

Attorney for Applicants

7444 West Wilson Avenue

Chicago, Illinois 60706

(708) 867-9600